

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1368

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

USUN NEW YORK 0282

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1674

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT

SUBJ: BARROW GOVERNMENT TOPPLED 17 TO 7

REF: (A) BRIDGETOWN 1591; (B) BRIDGETOWN 1672

1. FIFTEEN YEARS OF DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY (DLP)
RULE ENDED SEPTEMBER 2 WHEN BARBADIAN VOTERS ELECTED 17
BARBADOS LABOR PARTY (BLP) AND 7 DLP CANDIDATES, TO THE
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. THE VICTORIOUS BLP RETURNED ALL ITS
INCUMBENTS WHO RAN (7) WHILE THE LOSING DLP SAW FIVE
IF ITS HOUSE MEMBERS DEFEATED, AMONG THEM THREE FORMER
MINISTERS. (SENATOR GEORGE MOE, FORMERLY MINISTER OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND ATTORNEY GENERAL, ALSO LOST HIS BID
FOR A HOUSE SEAT.) BLP LEADER J.M.G. "TOM" ADAMS
WAS RETURNED AND IS EXPECTED TO BE SWORN IN TODAY AS
THE NEXT PRIME MINISTER. OUTGOING PM BARROW RETAINED
HIS SEAT BY A SUBSTANTIAL MARGIN WHILE DR. RICHARD HAYNES,
HIS POLITICAL PROTEGE -- AND MUCH TOUTED ULTIMATE
HEIR TO THE DLP PARTY LEADERSHIP -- LOST HIS RACE. THE
ISLAND'S RANKING LABOR LEADER AND DLP BACKBENCHER, FRANK
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WALCOTT, WAS ALSO UNSEATED. THE BLP CAPTURED APPROX

53.4 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL POPULAR VOTE.

2. THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEW BLP GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED. HOWEVER IT IS EXPECTED THAT ADAMS WILL ALSO BECOME EITHER MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OR MINISTER OF FINANCE.

3. ALTHOUGH THE BLP PRESENTS NO IDEOLOGICAL CONTRAST TO THE DEFEATED DLP, WE EXPECT OUR WORKING LEVEL ACCESS, OFTEN MADE DIFFICULT ON ORDERS FROM BARROW, TO IMPROVE SIGNIFICANTLY.

4. WE DON'T EXPECT THE CUBANS TO FIND THE NEW GOVERNMENT AS COOPERATIVE AS THEY FOUND BARROW IN HIS LAST MONTHS. NEITHER DO WE EXPECT THE NEW GOVERNMENT TO ECHO BARROW'S DESTABILIZATION THEME.

5. GOB PERM REP. J.C. TUDOR ADVISES HIS RESIGNATION TODAY, RETURNING TO NEW YORK CITY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, TO WIND UP AFFAIRS.
BRITTON

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